

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

The references cited on attached Form PTO-1449 are being called to the attention of the Examiner.

- Copies of the cited non-patent and/or foreign references are enclosed herewith.

Copies of the cited U.S. patents and/or patent applications are enclosed herewith.

Copies of the cited U.S. patents/patent application publications are not enclosed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a).

Copies of the cited references are not enclosed, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d), because the references were cited by or submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in prior application Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_ filed \_\_\_\_\_, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120.

To the best of applicants' belief, the pertinence of the foreign-language references are believed to be summarized in the attached English abstracts and in the figures, although applicants do not necessarily vouch for the accuracy of the translation.

Examiner's attention is drawn to the following related applications:

Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_ filed \_\_\_\_\_ (Attorney Ref. No. \_\_\_\_\_)

Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_ filed \_\_\_\_\_ (Attorney Ref. No. \_\_\_\_\_)

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Submission of the above information is not intended as an admission that any portion of the information is citable under the statutes or rules to support a rejection, that any item disclosed represents analogous art, or that those skilled in the art would refer to or recognize the pertinence of any reference without the benefit of hindsight, nor should an inference

drawn as to the pertinence of the references based on the order in which they are presented. Submission of this statement should not be taken as an indication that a search has been conducted, or that no better art exists.

It is respectfully requested that the cited information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application and the references made of record therein.

Applicants hereby requests consideration of the reference(s) disclosed herein. Please charge Deposit Account 19-1970 in the amount of \$180.00 under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p). Please credit any overpayment or charge any underpayment to Deposit Account 19-1970.

Respectfully submitted,

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